

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND PACIFIC HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON HUMPHREYS UNIT #15228 APO AP 96271-5228

IMHM-MWA 3 August 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Policy #28, Standards of Child Supervision

1. References:

- a. DODI 6060.3, School-Age Care (SAC) Program, 19 December 1996.
- b. AR 608-1, Army Community Service, 13 March 2013.
- c. AR 608-10, Child Development Services, 15 July 1997.
- d. AR 608-18, The Army Family Advocacy Program, 30 October 2007 (*RAR 001, 13 September 2011).
- e. AR 608-75, Exceptional Family Member Program, 22 November 2006 (*RAR 001, 24 February 2011).
 - f. USFK Reg 600-52, Civilian and/or Family Member Misconduct, 17 February 2014.
- 2. Purpose: To establish minimum acceptable standards for the supervision of children that reside in Area III.
- 3. Applicability: This policy applies to all military and civilian employees of the Department of Defense (DoD) and Invited Contractors that reside in Area III (hereafter collectively referred to as "Sponsors" and individually referred to as a "Sponsor"). This policy also applies to a Sponsor's dependent(s) (including spouse and children) when they reside in Area III in either a command Sponsored or a non-command Sponsored status.

4. General:

a. Sponsors and parents are ultimately responsible for the health, welfare, and safety of their children at all times. Sponsors and parents must use good judgment and consider the physical, emotional, and psychological maturity of their child when determining the level of supervision the child requires.

- b. Commanders have a responsibility to reduce potential command liability through risk management. Enforcement of parental responsibility and implementation of a child supervision policy helps commanders:
 - (1) Protect the safety of children by ensuring they are supervised.
- (2) Safeguard others from risks associated with unsupervised children in housing/common areas (e.g., playing with matches).
 - (3) Minimize installation property damage (e.g., vandalism).
- (4) Reduce Soldier, Civilian, and Family Member lost duty time due to child misconduct through lack of supervision.

5. Policy:

- a. The child supervision age matrix is attached as Appendix A of this policy letter. The matrix operates as a tool to avoid instances of child neglect and serves as a guideline on the appropriate level of adult supervision for children. Failure to comply with the matrix will not be deemed as child neglect. Rather, child neglect will be determined based on the facts and circumstances of each incident. Each child is unique with different personalities, environment, developmental progress, and maturity level. It is the parents' duty to determine when a child requires little or no supervision. The matrix cannot cover every possible situation involving the supervision of children. At no time shall any child be left unattended under circumstances involving potential or actual risk to the child's health or safety.
- b. The following personnel may supervise children: Sponsor, parent, designated adult (18 years old or older), sibling (11 years old or older) or other family member (11 years old or older), Family Child Care Provider, Child Developmental Center or School-Age Center (SAC) employee (whose duty responsibilities include the supervision of children), and babysitter.
- c. Children that are 10 to 11 years old that are eligible to stay home alone should complete Home Alone Self-Care Training provided in partnership through the Family Advocacy Program and Child and Youth Services (CYSS).
- d. Children that are 7 to 10 years old and walking to or from school or the bus stop should follow the buddy system and walk with a friend or in a group.
- e. To be listed on the Child Development Center's list of babysitters, interested individuals must complete either the American Red Cross Babysitter's Training Course or the Child and Youth School (CYS) Services Babysitter Training Course.

- f. Children that meet the criteria for the Exceptional Family Member Program as defined by Army Regulation (AR) 608-75 may require special levels of supervision that supplement the minimum acceptable supervisory standards for children.
- g. USAG-H Residents that observe children in Area III in conditions that are below the minimum acceptable supervisory standards for these children should contact the Military Police: Camp Humphreys, call DSN 753-3111 or Commercial 0503-353-3111 (24 hours).
- h. Actions that law enforcement and other authorities may take when they observe children in Area III in conditions that are below the minimum acceptable supervisory standards for these children include (but are not limited to) the following:
- (1) The Sponsor, parent, or designated care provider will be immediately contacted to provide appropriate supervision. If this person cannot be located, the Military Police will be contacted for appropriate action.
- (2) The child may be removed and placed in child care or emergency placement care (by command authority) when removal from the home is necessary to avoid risk of imminent death, serious bodily harm, or serious mental or physical abuse.
- (3) The Sponsor, parent, or designated care provider may be investigated to determine if abuse or neglect occurred and appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken based upon the Uniform Code of Military Justice, the Military Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act, or USFK/USAG Humphreys and Area III regulation and policy dealing with civilian and Family member misconduct.
- (4) A finding of child neglect may be assessed against the Sponsor, parent, and/or designated care provider if a child is observed in conditions that satisfy the regulatory definition of "child neglect" contained in AR 608-18.
- i. If child neglect or abuse is suspected, report the neglect or abuse to the Military Police, the Report Point of Contact, or the Military Treatment Facility's emergency room. Serious abuse or neglect cases may result in adverse administrative actions, offenders being barred from post, the early return of dependents, or criminal prosecution under the UCMJ or other applicable laws.
 - j. This policy will be reviewed as required by regulations.

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6. Point of Contact is Family Advocacy Program Manager, Army Community Service, DSN 753-6287.

Encl

Appendix A Matrix

DISTRIBUTION:

USAG Humphreys Website

SCOTT W. MUELLER

COL, AR

Commanding

Appendix A (Child Supervision Guidelines)

Rules for Leaving Children Alone

- Children up to 5th grade may not be left at home alone and must have immediate access to a responsible adult or babysitter see note 1.
- Children 6th grade and above with ready access can be left at home alone based on parental discretion see note 2.

Notes:

- 1. Immediate access means within physical eyesight, e.g., by the playground, park, etc. and within hearing distance.
- 2. Ready access is defined as, at a minimum, telephone access and telephone number of each person designated as adult supervision, e.g., a parent, guardian, babysitter, care provider or friend, etc.

Rules for Children Playing Outside

- Children up to 3rd grade can play outside with immediate access to a responsible adult or babysitter (see babysitter section below) at all times see note 1.
- Children 4th grade and above can play outside with ready access to responsible adult or babysitter see note 2.

Babysitting

- Parent will decide the appropriate age of when one of their own children babysits his or her sibling(s) as long as the rules for leaving children home alone are met.
 - Children age 12 can babysit non-siblings for up to 6 hrs.
 - Children age 13-15 can babysit non-siblings for up to 12 hrs.
 - Children age 16 above can babysit non-siblings without restrictions.

Note: It is recommended that children who babysit other than their siblings take the 4-H Babysitter's Course offered by CYSS. In accordance with Army Regulation 608-10, only children age 13 and above, having satisfactorily completed the 4-H Babysitter's Course (or equivalent), can be added to CYSS babysitting referral list. When babysitting, all babysitters will have a verifiable, prearranged and responsible adult point of contact.

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Child Supervision (Walking To/From School and Bus Riders)

From G Avenue Housing (New Housing)

- Children in the 1st grade and below may not walk to/from school without parent/guardian supervision.
- Children in the 2nd grade and above may walk to/from school unsupervised, per parental discretion.

From Bennett Avenue Housing (Old Housing)

- Children in the 1st grade and below must be accompanied by a parent/guardian to/from the bus stop and may not walk to/from school unaccompanied.
- Children in the 2nd 5th grade can walk to/from the bus stop unaccompanied but may not walk to/from school unaccompanied, per parental discretion.
- Children in the 5th grade and above can walk to/from the bust stop and to/from school unaccompanied.

Note: Parents must consider the distance to the school, DOD sanctioned activities area, school building opening time, hours of darkness, on-going construction in the area and the child's maturity.

Child Supervision (In a Car)

- · At no time, children 5th grade and below may be left alone in a car.
- · Children 5th grade and above. See note below.

Note: At all time, when a child is left alone in the car, the parents will make an informed choice, e.g., regarding heat, level of danger, time in the car, etc. The car key must be removed and the handbrake applied.

Child Supervision (1st grade and below) Bus Riders Off-Base

- Bus riders 1st grade and below must have parent/guardian supervision during pick-up and drop-off at the designated off-base school bus stops.
- If a parent/guardian is not on site during drop off, the child will be transported to the Child Development Center (CDC) or School Age Center (SAC) and placed in hourly care.

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• If the child is not enrolled at CDC or SAC, the bus transportation POC will contact the child's parents/guardian to coordinate pick-up.

Note: Child(ren) must be enrolled in Child, Youth and School (CYS) Services in order for the CDC or SAC to provide care.